1	2	3	4
17.	Rajasthan	24	—
18.	Tamil Nadu	3379	590
19.	Tripura	32	—
20.	Uttar Pradesh	115	—
21.	West Bengal	1200	6000
	TOTAL	25,937	35,155

Boycott of Hank Yarn by Handloom and Powerloom Units in Tamil Nadu

5554. SHRI V. GOPALSAMY: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to newsitem in Economic Times, New Delhi dated 6th April, 1994 captioned "Handloom, Powerloom units in Tamil Nadu to boycott hank yarn";

(b) if so, what is the reaction of Government in the matter;

(c) whether any action has been initiated by Government to help handloom and powerloom units in Tamil Nadu which are very badly affected by the rise in prices of cotton yarn; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The increase in prices of yarn has arisen primarily on account of increase in price of raw cotton. Government of India has taken a number of steps to contain the price rise. These include, placing of cotton in the OGL for import with Nil duty, import of viscose staple fibre at concessional duty, holding back of cotton exports, amendment of Cotton Control Order providing for prescription of ceilings on stocks of cotton, extensive inspection of cotton stockists, imposition of Selective Credit Control on cotton trading and enforcement of Hank Yarn Obligation order. Apart from these policy measures a specific scheme has been drawn up to supply 20 million kgs of hank yarn to handloom sector at a subsidised rate. Tamil Nadu has been allocated 3.5 million kgs. out of the above.

Crisis in Woollen Carpet Industry

5555. SHRI SUNDER SINGH BHANDARI: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the handloom industry has been closed due to 15 per cent basic duty and 20 per cent additional duty on Woollen Carpet yarn throwing lacs of people out of employment; if so, what is Government's reaction thereto;

(b) how many agricultural mandis dealing in wool have been affected; and

(c) whether there are reports of hundreds of sheep being diverted to slaughter houses?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) No report of adverse affect from major Wool Mandis was received. However, traders in Beaver Mandi, Rajasthan, stopped trading in wool for some time after presentation of the Budget.

(c) No specific report of slaughtering of sheep more than the number usually slaughtered has been received.

Tripartite Committee Report on Modernisation of NTC Mills

5556. SHRI RAJUBHAI A. PARMAR:
SHRI MOHD. MASUD KHAN:
SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL:
SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tripartite Committee on sick National Textile Mills has decided not to close any unit and to modernise them with an investment of Rs. 2000/- crores;

(b) if so, the details thereof together with the closed mills, partially closed mills, non-performing workers and their wage component per annum and the source of proposed investment;

(c) whether the proposed modernisation would absorb all the workers of the sick and closed mills;

(d) if not, whether they get the benefit of Voluntary Retirement Scheme;

(e) whether it is possible to run all or any of these mills on labour cooperative lines; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) to (d) The Textile Research Associations have, on the instructions of the Ministry of Textiles, prepared fresh modernisation plans for the revival of NTC. These plans envisage Modernisation of 79 mills at an investment of Rs. 2005.67 crores, restructuring of 36 unviable units into 18 viable units and rationalisation of 70,885 surplus workforce (63,610 workers and 7,275 Officers/Staff). These plans have been endorsed by the Special Tripartite Committee on NTC which has given the following unanimous recommendations :—

(i) The reports given by the Textile Research Associations show that the NTC mills as well as Taken Over Mills can be made viable by modernisation.

(ii) Modernisation/rationalisation therefore should be carried out in consultation with the unions.

(iii) There should be no retrenchment.

(iv) There should be no privatisation.

(v) Taken Over Mills would be Nationalised.

(vi) Surplus land may be disposed of and the proceeds should be utilised by the Management for Modernisation, Working Capital, etc.

(vii) Professional management should be strengthened both in the Holding Company and at the subsidiary levels and representation of trade unions should be ensured upto Board level for effective participation of workers in the management at all levels from unit to Holding Company level.

(viii) Steps shall be taken to move the BIFR to accept the above proposals and close the cases.

The Modernisation plans are proposed to be funded through budgetary support, institutional finance, suppliers' credit, sale of surplus land and assets, etc. The revival plans will require the approval of the Board for Industrial and Financial Reconstruction under the provisions of the Sick Industrial Companies (Special Provision) Act, 1985 after they are approved by Govt. before they can be implemented.

(e) and (f) Govt. are willing to consider handing over the mills of KTC to workers' cooperatives provided concrete and viable proposals having the consent of all parties concerned are received in this regard.

Long-Term Policy on Cotton Exports

5557. SHRI SARADA MOHANTY :
SHRI SOM PAL :

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to article on cotton exports by two senior economists Dr. Ashok Gulati and Dr. Anil Sharma of the National Council of Applied Economic Research which appeared in the 'Economic Times' dated the 7th March, 1994;

(b) whether Government are in agreement with their view that it is high time to shed the highly restrictive and unpredictable policy on raw cotton exports, as it does more harm than good to the economy;

(c) if so, what is being done to evolve a more stable long-term policy on cotton exports; and

(d) if nothing is being done what is the rationale thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TEXTILES (SHRI G. VENKAT SWAMY) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) The Government of India has an